

Citizen Update

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTS BUDGET Spending Cut \$12.5 Million - Tax Rate Cut

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors adopted the 2003 budget that cuts spending in the general government budget by \$12.5 million and cuts the tax rate to \$1.05 from the \$1.08 rate proposed by the County Administrator. The Board restored \$4 million in education funding to the schools.

Measures included in the 2003 budget are:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUNDING

The budget contains funding for the implementation of the revised Comprehensive Plan.

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION FUND

The Board created an open space preservation fund for certain non-property tax revenues to be utilized for open space preservation efforts.

SPENDING CUTS IMPLEMENTED

Spending cuts/initiatives include:

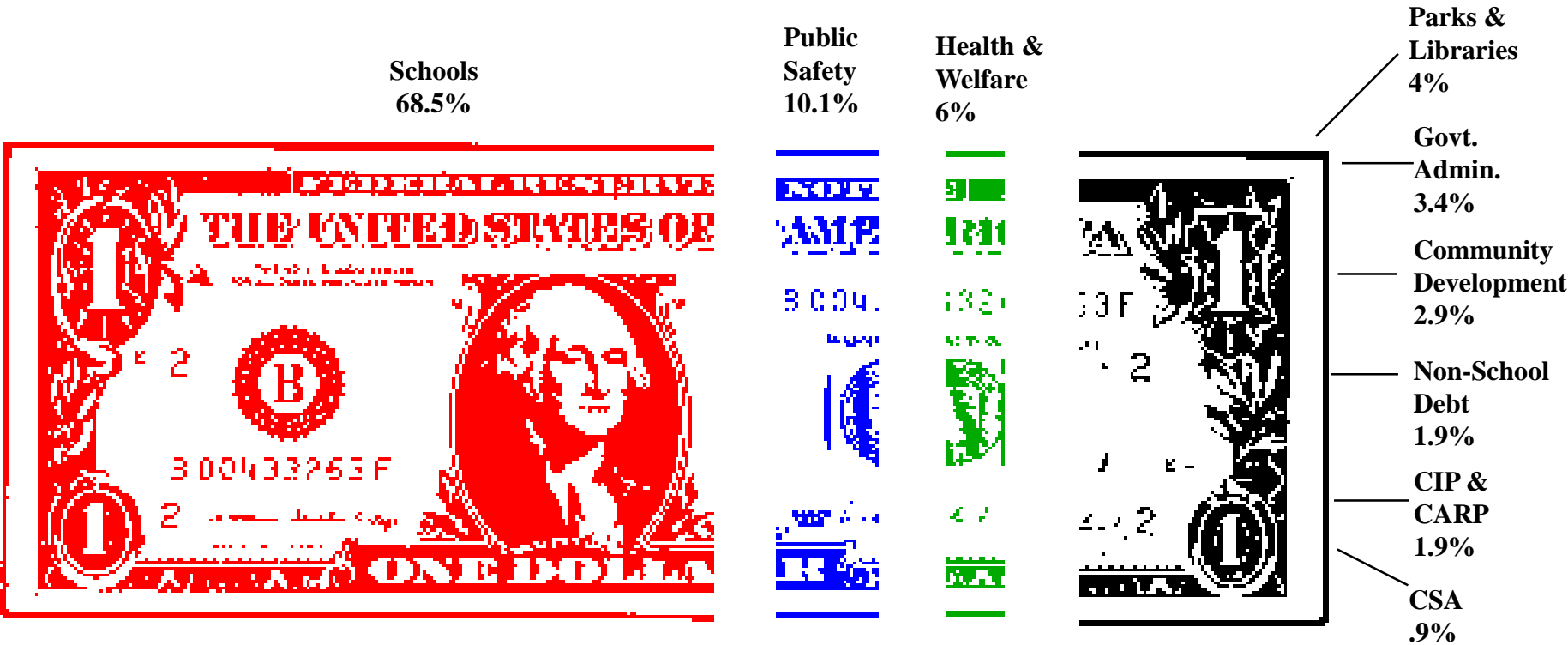
- Eliminating 43 new personnel as requested;
- Cutting the proposed Salary cost of living adjustment to 2%
- Reduction in contracts
- Various operational efficiencies

CRITICAL NEEDS MET

Funding in the budget provides for:

- Additional Sheriff's Deputies and Firefighters to help maintain fire and rescue services for the growing population
- Increased funding for Volunteer Fire Companies
- Crime Victim Support Services
- New attorney for Commonwealth Attorney's Office

How Your Property Tax Dollars are Allocated



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN SCOTT K. YORK



Dear Neighbors:

I am pleased to be able to present to you our first edition of “Citizen Update”.

We have heard time and time from our residents the need for your County government officials to provide information to residents about the issues facing the County and what actions their elected officials are taking to address them.

In this first edition I am pleased to report on the Board’s actions on the 2003 budget, the status of the implementation of the County’s Comprehensive Plan, the success of our efforts to protect open space, and facts and figure regarding our County

Loudoun County is a great place to live and work. You can be assured that your Board of Supervisors and staff are working hard to address the issues of concern that you have

raised with us.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you.

Scott K. York
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

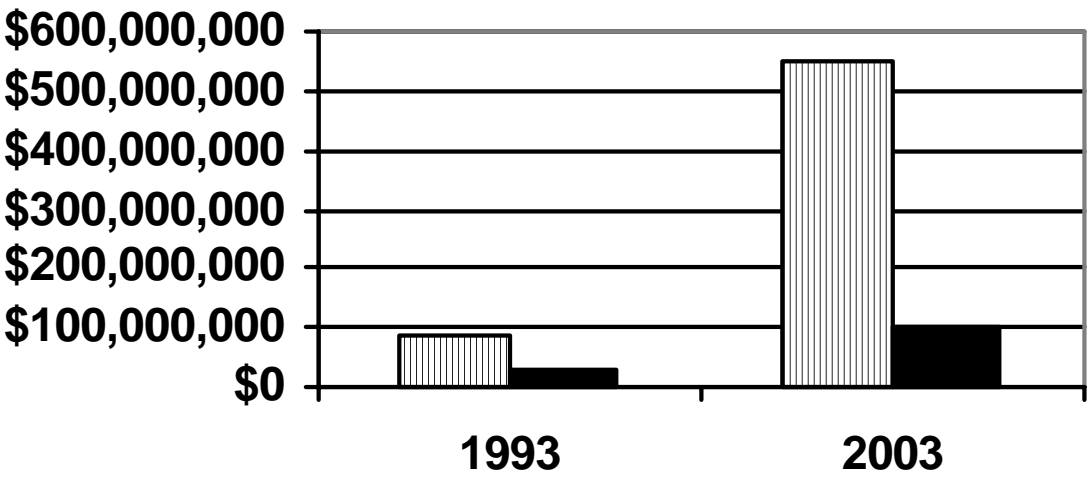
HOW TO CONTACT YOUR SUPERVISOR

Members of the Board of Supervisors can be contacted by telephone at 703-777-0204, by email at LOUDOUNBOS@AOL.COM or in writing:
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors,
1 Harrison Street, SE
Fifth Floor
Leesburg VA 20177

RICHMOND SHORTCHANGES LOUDOUN TAXPAYERS

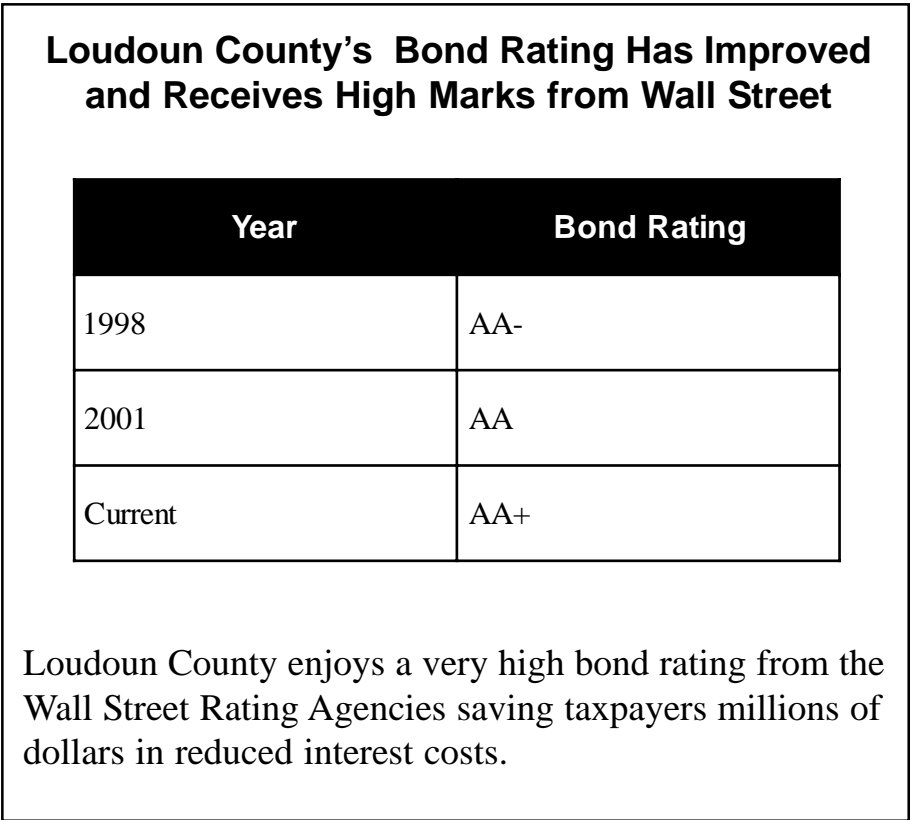
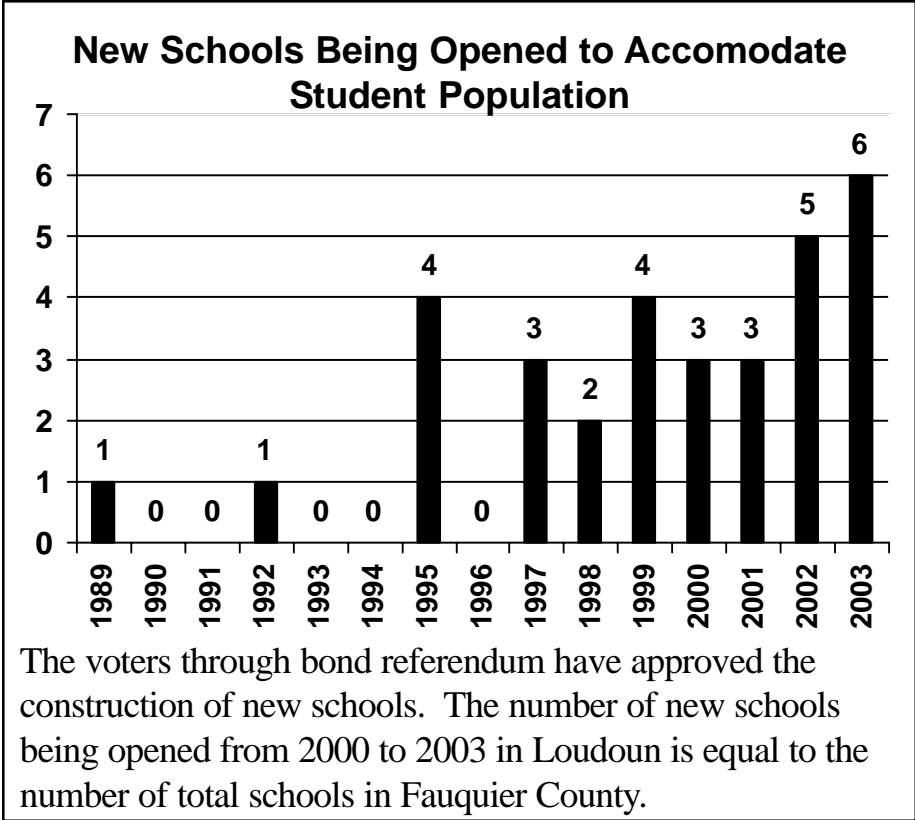
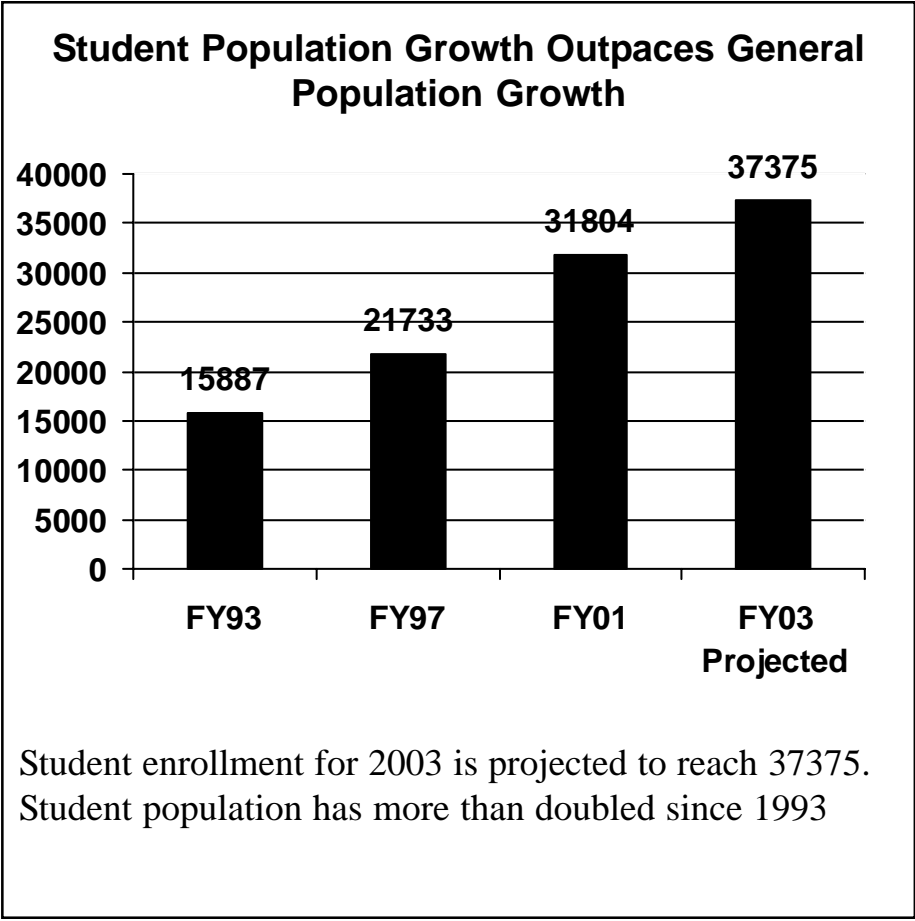
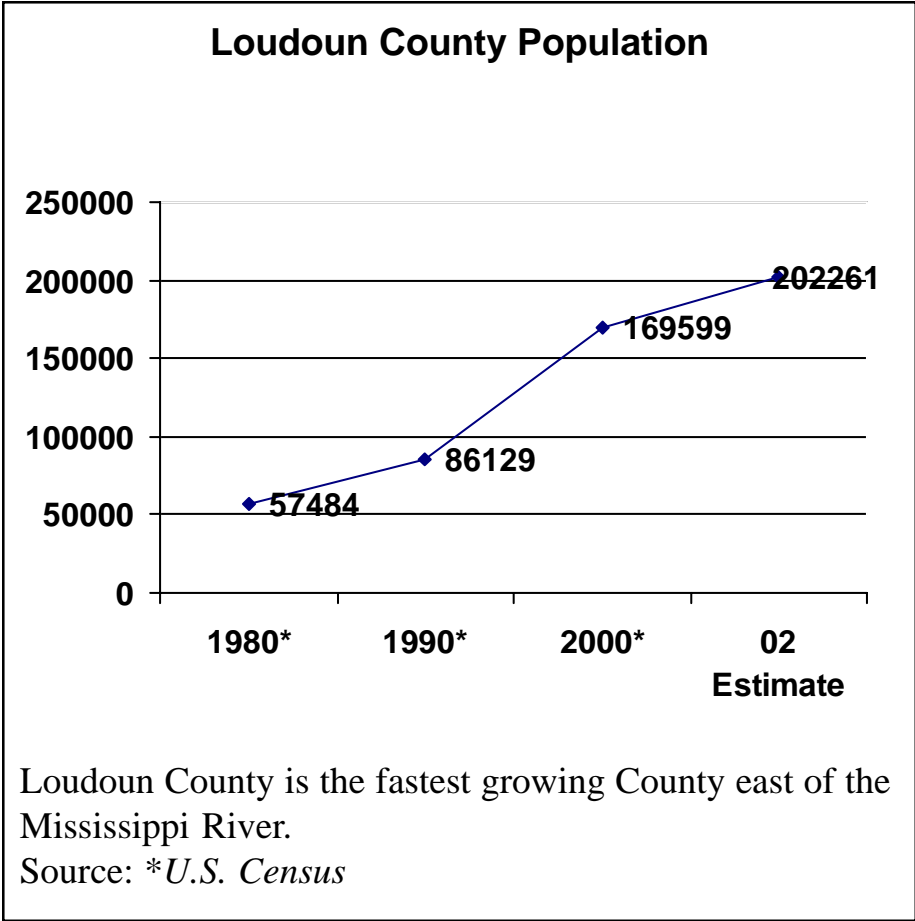
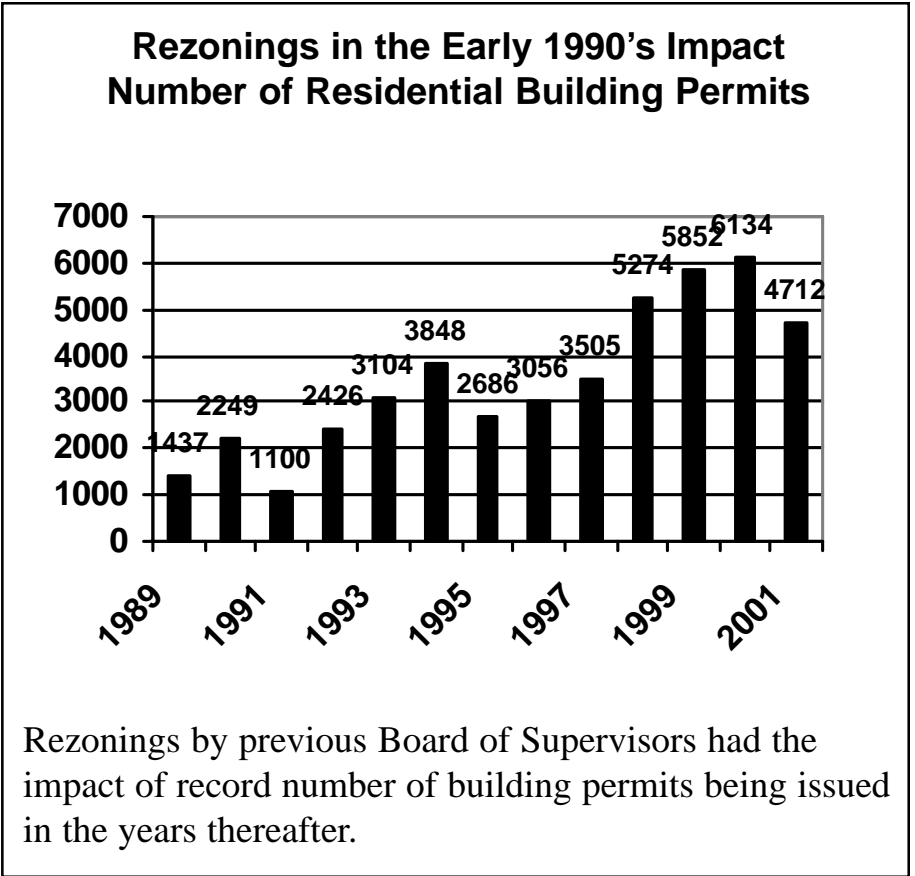
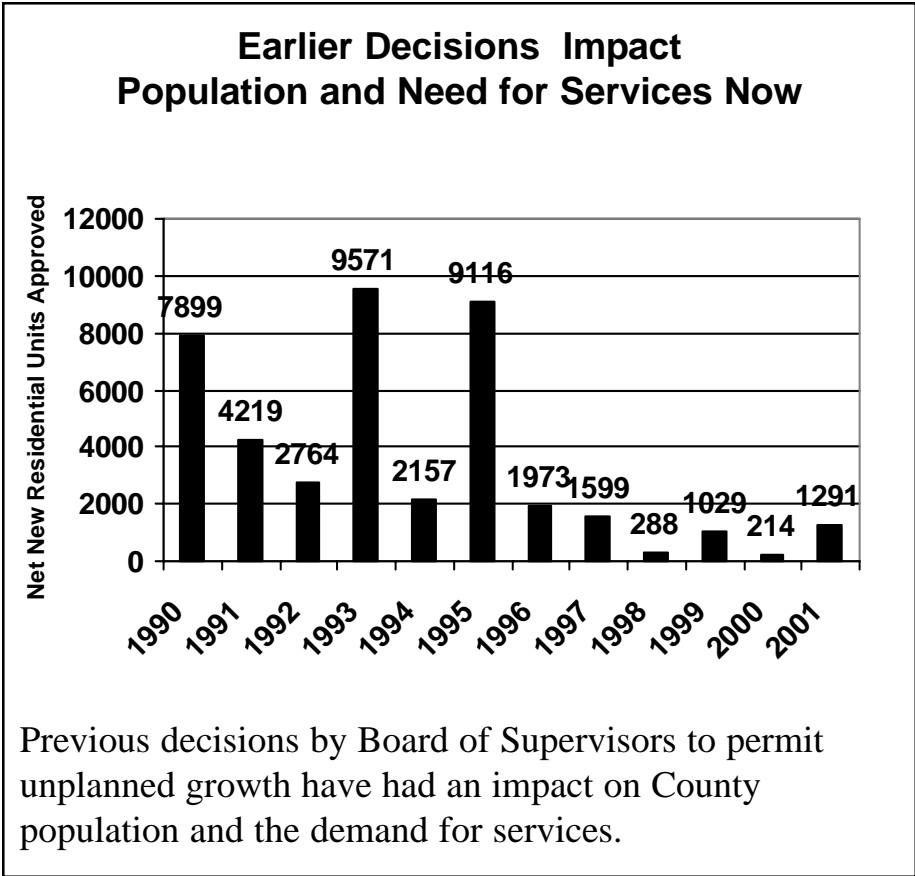
In 1993 Loudoun County residents sent \$84 million in income taxes to the State with \$28 million or 33% returned to the County in the form of State Aid.

In 2003 it is estimated that County residents will send to Richmond \$550 million in income taxes but receive in return \$103 million or 18% in State Aid. Richmond is short-changing Loudoun taxpayers. If the percentage of funds returned today was the same as 1993, Loudoun County would receive \$78 million more to help pay for new schools and the new teachers necessary to address student enrollment needs and provide tax relief to our residents.



Income Tax Paid Returned to Taxpayers

LOUDOUN STATISTICS



ZONING ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTATION MOVES FORWARD

Comprehensive Plan Policies To Be Reflected

The Board of Supervisors has taken the final steps in bringing the planning policies contained in the revised Comprehensive Plan (July 2001) to fruition.

In December the Board approved the hiring of a nationally recognized firm to assist the County in preparing amendments to the County's Zoning Ordinance, Facilities Standards Manual, Land Subdivision Development Ordinance, and related regulatory documents. The contract was awarded to Clarion Associates of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The draft zoning ordinance was released on April 22 and is available for review.

At its February 19th meeting the Board of Supervisors approved a work plan that will bring changes of the aforementioned documents to the Board and Planning Commission in April. The Board and the County's Planning Commission will each conduct separate public hearings on the proposals. Multiple joint public work sessions will be held as well.

The comprehensive remapping of the County and revisions to the Zoning Ordinance is the critical step in the County's planning process to implement the policies contained in the Comprehensive Plan. Loudoun

County is cited as one of the fastest growing communities in the country.

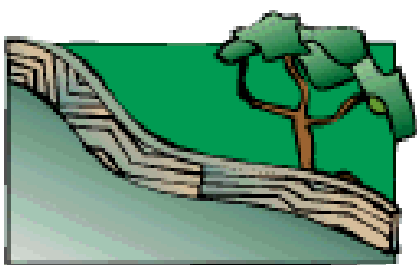
"..the county's proactive approach to land use planning, interconnected with capital planning, is expected to save officials, at least, \$250 million in infrastructure costs otherwise associated with full-scale development.."

Moody's Bond Rating Agency

Recognizing the positive impact of controlling growth on the County's budget, Moody's Bond Rating Agency when it reaffirmed the County's AA+ bond rating stated the following: "..the county's proactive approach to land use planning, interconnected with capital planning, is expected to save officials, at least, \$250 million in infrastructure costs otherwise associated with full-scale development.."

OPEN SPACE PROGRAM SAVES TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted to approve the purchase of development rights to protect 1748 acres of open space and farm land from development and save taxpayer dollars. Nine separate properties were protected by the Board's action on February 4.



The intent of the [Purchase of Development Rights \(PDR\) program](#) is not only to protect our valuable open space, farm land and environment, but the taxpayer as well by preventing the costly over-development of critical green space. The development of these aforementioned properties would have incurred more than \$70 million in government costs for services and infrastructure improvements over a twenty year period if developed. The County's investment to protect these properties was \$4.4 million.

The current Board adopted the PDR Program in early 2001, which was initiated by the previous Board of Supervisors. Nearly 81 percent of residents who participated in the County's 2001 Citizen Survey gave support to the PDR Program.

Under the PDR Program, property owners voluntarily agree to sell the county their property's development rights. In exchange for the payment, the county places a conservation easement on the property that will protect the land's open space and other environmental or cultural resources in perpetuity.

Residents interested in the PDR program can contact the Program Manager, [Michael Kane](#), at 703-737-8868.

Visit the County's web site for more information
www.loudoun.gov